INDOMITABLE BELGIAN ARMY AIDS IN DRIVING OUT THE HUN

Every Branch Busy Redeeming Country From Invader and Spirit Is High -Pen Pictures of Conditions Back of the Lines

By MILTON V. SNYDER,

Paris representative of THE SUN. WITH THE BELGIAN ARMY NEAR DIX-MUDE, Nov. 16.

UST three years ago the Yser attained immortality when the Belgian army, hammered and hattered in the retreat from Antwerp in which it lost half its effectives, held back for fifteen days the advancing German hosts. With only 48,000 men at for duty, and these half clothed, inadequately supplied with ammunition and desperately short of artillery, it resisted for fifteen days the assaults of 100,000 Germans and the pounding of \$50 guns.

On November 1, 1914, the Kaiser, who had watched his regiments struggle to crush the thin Belgian line, turned his back on the scene of their This is how the humiliation of that German army, which, flushed with victory, thought it an easy task to push its despised foes out of its way, is described by Leon Van Der Fesen in his book "The Invasion and the War in Belgium":

"On the first of November many signs of a German retreat were visible along the whole Belgian front. The final shock had falled and the inundation completed their downfall. Slowly. cullenly and relentlessly the water had flowed into the enemy's trenches and the district between the Yser and the railway was being gradually trans-formed into a sea of mud. This then was the end-a difficult retreat across a flooded country in the midst of the shells of the Franco-Belgian batteries fring a deflance.

The enemy found himself driven off or trapped in the mud. Many of his soldiers, those of the first line being cut off by the water, were forced to ome to the Belgian trenches and surrender. They were in mud up to the

"Long files of prisoners were soon passing along the roads. Others were caught under fire while attempting to escape from the sticky slime and perthere. In the evening the left bank of the Yser was almost com-pletely evacuated."

has for its purpose the driving of the German army out of Flanders. I have general headquarters and talked with the officers there; have seen regiments zoing back to the trenches after their period of rest and watched others coming back from the firing line; have been permitted to inspect the equip-ment and material. The Belgian army prepared to do its part.

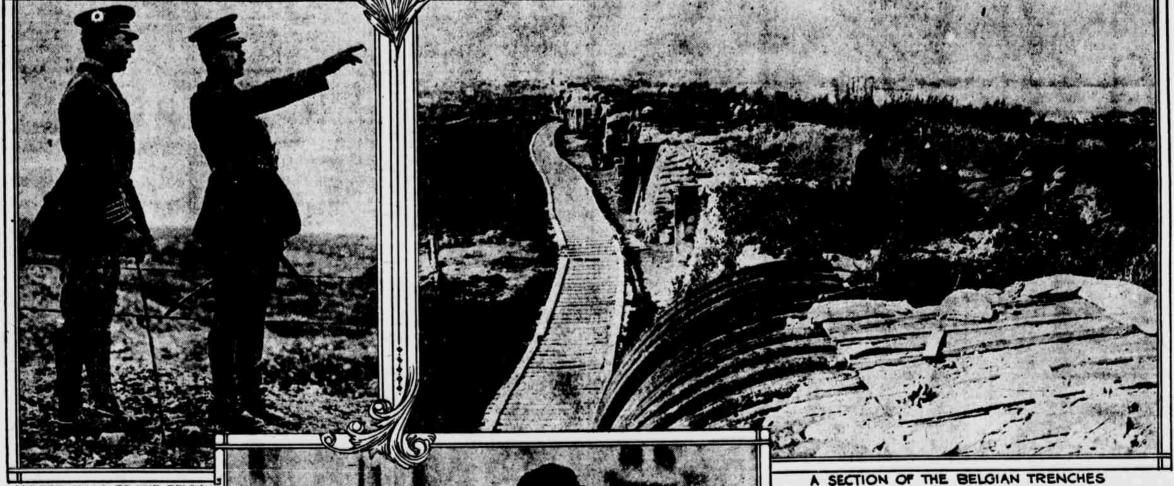
Belginm's Fine Soldiers.

We had our first sight of any con-Here we encountered a full regi- including what remained of the roof. line, marching to the reaches to relieve another unit.

many a hard fight.

that may not be mentioned we quickly ber on the main floor. arrived at the general headquarters of

the nerve centre of the Belgian line. Blery activity that morning and we Leaving Furnes our route to La himself just behind the British lines. rattling gunfire.



WATCHING A BATTLE

were shown on the map just where the German batteries doing the firing were located and where the shells were falling. The complete trench systems of the Germans as platted from aerial observations were shown on a large map hanging on the wall. Dixmude and St. Jacques Capelle were points of considerable interest that morning.

Leaving headquarters our automobiles headed for La Panne, a popular watering place before the war. We were now crossing the narrow strip that constitutes all of Belgium not occupied by the Germans. Only 80,000 civilian inhabitants now live in this area-the total population of the unconquered district.

Shell shot villages and farms began to make their appearance as we travelled, but the cruel ravages of war domitable spirit, is not only still holding that Year line but is actively cooperating in the allied of any still the square. On the square of the square operating in the allied offensive which the massive tower of a wonderful twelfth century church lifted its wounded head to the sky. Two beautiseen the Belgian soldiers in their ful buildings, the Hotel de Ville, a fine trenches and camps, have visited the example of the influence of the Spangereral headquarters and talked with Palais de Justice, Italian in its architecture, stood mute witnesses to the destructiveness of the boche.

Destruction at Furnes.

Crushed roofs, shattered windows through which could be seen the wreckage of the interior and facades pockmarked by pieces of shell and aerial bombs caught the eye on all drable unit of the army while still four sides. The Palais de Justice had France. It was on the road run- apparently suffered the greatest daming north from Calais to the fron- age. Its interior was a heap of debris,

We went into the Hotel de Ville and found in a rear room an architect who liaif of the men were sturdy, rosy had set up his workshop and was encheeked young fellows, pictures of gaged in preparing plans for the rewere in excellent condition, as was the cluding the building in which he was entire equipment of the command. working. A great aerial torpedo, The men were in high spirits and dropped by a raiding German, had wang along the road like veterans of passed through the heavy metal roof, penetrated the thick stone floor and Crossing the frontier at a village exploded in the lofty reception cham-

There were 8,000 persons who called the Belgian army. An interesting Furnes home before the invasion. Now story could be written about the in- the population is greatly reduced. of the low buildings occupied as offices Furnes and any appearance of activby the General Staff is concealed from Ity in the streets is usually followed by prying bothe aviators. We passed a bombardment from the sky or a few



story could be written about the insenious way in which the true nature German airplanes keep close watch on panne took us shrough a country on At every crossroad were camps, the of the low buildings occupied as offices for the swift flying machine followed by the General Staff is concealed from the streets is usually followed by the searchlight and a stream fences; the other photographs for use distribution to the needy; a kitchen in prying bothe aviators. We passed a bombardment from the sky or a few through the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range Gerthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range for orphaned children.

Over each little bed hung a diminuthrough the side yard of one of a shells are thrown by long range for orphaned children.

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Staff officers were busy with maps staff officers were busy with maps as they received telephonic communias they receive from the front, miles to the have ordered that soldiers keep off the and repassing. The scene was so picked up by the sweeping rays, which no attention to the firing but walked 1,500 and 15,000 feet. animsted that one could have imagined was the signal for a renewal of the up and down the unlighted streets,

half shuttered windows of the few | the photographic bureau to put in the

shops where they gazed, as they had hands of the General Belgian Staff five done every night for weeks, upon the prints within three hours after the

Somewhere between general head- Jaumotte, in charge of the bureau, quarters and La Panne is located one had arranged a very interesting demof the most interesting departments of onstration for our party. We were the General Staff. It is also the latest taken to the room where the staff offito be developed and one of the most cers study the enlargements of the important in this war of artillery. This negatives and a series was thrown on the photographic section of the a screen for our enlightenment. aviation service.

In this world war there has been nothing that has so appealed to the Some of them were taken over the imagination as has the mastery of the German lines quite near at hand facand the importance of the knowledge gained therefrom. The spectacular exploits of the battleplanes, enabove the earth, have overshadowed in the popular mind the achievements battery positions, and on some that of the observation and the photo- were exceptionally sharp the long

Every one who has followed the developments of military science in this men walking along the roads could be war has been impressed by the tre-mendous increase in the use and effifall to protect or clear the way the nfantry cannot advance.

that precedes the British attacks in on Dunkirk from a distance approx-Flanders or the French advances on imating twenty-seven miles. The first the Aisne blow trenches into the air, of these monsters, called "Bertha," was level concrete emplacements, destroy disabled and the Germans then thoughton girls and boys was strikunderground refuges and make of the brought up another which has a there and everywhere in her watchfantry goes forward. This precision it hurs an occasional gigantic shell of the subject of the possible by some lines are subject to the subject of the possible by some lines are subject to the subject of t of fire is only made possible by con-stant and accurate information of the kilometers. The gun is protected from where the purely Flemish type preenemy's infantry and artillery posi-tions, and this is the work of the ob-servation and photographic airplanes. Sert of tunnel into which it retires on the re-heal room, where a sweet faced

hazardous work while the guns are ing after being fired.
firing. Flying over the foe's lines the Near Furnes we had the opportunity designated target. The photographic supported by generous English and filled the pances of their song planes, on the contrary, go up as a American subscribers, engaged in this rule when there is little or no firing- humanitarian effort; among them the the clearer the air conditions the bet- Belgian Canal Boat Fund, and it was horrors of war. We went into the time when most of the work is done.

In photographing the enemy terrain children of the neighborhood. two objects are sought: one, pictures

crowding in front of the dimiy lighted, information it has been possible for two years, in which time hundreds of lines.

arched rustic gateways bore this in-scription: "Ecoles de sa Majeste la Reine-Jardin Marie Jose." This is one of the two institutions supported en-tirely by the Queen of the Belgians that are taking the place of parents to some 600 little victims of the war. Behind the green hedge are a group of low buildings some dormitories. some schoolrooms, a hospital, the

Gun Shoots 27 Miles.

kitchen and the administration building, where we found Mme, E. Van linghen, who is the directress of the institution for the Queen. In the Jardin Marie-Jose 300 boys and girls between the ages of 3 and 7 find a happy home: quite unconscious-of the meaning of the not far distant booming sound that is the constant accompaniment of their waking and sleeping hours. When we arrived it was the play hour and the happy excite. shouts that one beard differed not at all from those going up from those sands of playgrounds in the United viators had taken the negative. Capt. States.

Orphan Children

Happy Within

Sound of Guns;

Each Is Equipped

With Gas Mask

to Meet Cruel

children have been cared for, many of whom have not seen their parents

since they fled before the German in-

Belgian Orphans Cared For.

Some miles further on we came to where the most splendid effort in the

work of caring for the abandoned and orphaned Belgian children of tender age is in progress. Alongside a road

crowded with military transport two

Attacks

day and occasionally a heavier detona-tion would reach our ears. But if the children noticed it they gave no indiention. Their entire attention was given to their visitors. Some of the more adventurous spirits among the boys came running with outstretched hands. Others gravely gave the military salute, while some contented themselves by crying "Anglais!"

ing the sector we were to visit the following day. We saw the trench lines of both armies, the abris batonness with wide open every line in the stronge speaking mental with wide open every line in the strong speaking mental in the strong speaking gaging in deadly combat 10,000 feet or concrete refuges of the German sol- with wide open eyes. But like all of diers, the machine gun emplacements, curiosity when practically every much in the party produced a camera and began to take snapshots right and left barrels of the guns peering from under They did not know exactly what it was their camouflage. On one groups of all about, but were very willing to stand in front of the black box and easily distinguished. One curious effect was produced by the wind agitat- smile.

Then they were called by a whise! clency of the artillery. The guns are ing the surface of the inundated section the backbone of the army. If they tions of the terrain. the refectory for tea, which consisted Undoubtedly the most interesting to this day of large cups of steaming German occupied territory, which coffee and big slices of bread, thickly Boche Lines Photographed.

Showed the location of the great gun covered with jam. All chyness had the tremendous artillery preparation or rather the two great guns that fired that precedes the British attacks in on Dunkirk from a distance approximately.

The predominance of pure blends of them, explained that most

The observation planes do their most its great wheeled railway truck mountagardous work while the guns are ing after being fired.

"Without the parts of a religious order led them in singing the national hymn of Belgium, "La Brabanconne," Fift; observers spot the shells as they fall of seeing how the work of relieving and send back wireless messages correcting the ranges until the batteries are dropping their projectiles on the There are a number of organizations. But the sound of the connon was as

ter the results. The light of course at its quarters that we found two clean, restful dormitories and locked has to be considered, and for this rea- English women who had lived for it the long lines of they beds. At the son between 10 o'clock and noon is the months in constant danger of being foot of each were the small white struck by shells while caring for the hight garments of its occupant. And at the head of each, what was it we The quarters consisted of a large saw? A picture of the Christ or the Madonna? No. There are other symof food and clothing is kept for free bols necessary where the fangs of the distribution to the needy; a kitchen in Hun can reach even in hospitals and

number of similar cottages racing and in an orchard found served that the presence of any content topographical features of the land for German shells. Across the road is a been instructed how to put the masks the news centre of the Belgian line. Siderable number of troops in the town drivers. Detachments of English, clouds hung in the sky which were after them dropped in the street where use in either offensive or defensive schoolhouse where the little ones are on with the least possible delay when schoolhouse where the little ones are on with the least possible delay when taught their lessons. The Canal Boat the alarm is sounded that the Germans Fund work is in charge of Mrs. Innes- are hurling their creeping, suffocating. Taylor, who with one assistant has burning horror into the civilian habita-When there is urgent need for this lived in this war zone for more than tions behind, far behind, the fighting

HAMILTON M. WRIGHT.

HE West, which has given its sons to the war, is doing all it cife division of the American Red THE West, which has given its State to fill its quota.

on the Pacific coast are highly organof providing the things necessary to

Association and of the Young Women's

can to help America speedily to Cross, many of them having four or win the conflict. Those who in the San Francisco chapter, for example, early days after America's entrance has eighty-one auxiliaries. On Octointo the struggle expressed the opin- ber 1 there were 274,419 active memisn that the people of the West were bers of the Red Cross in the Pacific lukewarm in their patriotism had no division. Not all the chapters had onception of the deep underlying sen- completed their reports when the comment. The recruiting percentages in pliation was made. Since that time Western States stand unsurpassed the membership has greatly increased. the nation. San Francisco holds A drive for membership is under way the banner among cities for volunteer which will continue until Christn Sale to fill its quota. The great war relief undertakings Francisco easily exceeded its quota in the Red Cross drive for funds.

wars food, money, clothing and stitute of the Red Cross, which will of material used since last summer if all sorts of supplies. A good idea of care for and assist the families of sol- sewn into one piece would extend 200

Oakland chapter maintains a ground Christian Association are receiving floor headquarters on Broadway, the ter for a few weeks. Because of the macrous support. The University of principal business street. The loca-imperative need for surgical dressings Association are receiving practices as apport. The University of California, which, like other Western Universities, is cooperating with the War Department in placing skilled in specialized work, has contribute more than two thousand men to the United States milliary forces.

The Pacific division of the American Red Cross, which includes California, At their homes the chapter has \$.000 women in uniform may be esen cutting samments as well as a uniform may be seen cutting samments and making surgical dressings is given at the day in Spokane, Wash., \$.500 women sowing the United States milliary forces.

The Pacific division of the American Red Cross, which includes California, At their homes the chapter has \$.000 women sowing Airson and Nevada, is in charge of Marshall Hale, manager, and A. B. C. Dehrmann, assistant manager.

If the first part of the piedge relates to the importance of the task in hand. The appeal of the Young Women's treatment of the task in hand. The appeal of the Young Women's more than two thousand men to the United States milliary forces.

The Pacific division of the American Red Cross, which includes California, the chapter has \$.000 women sowing the chapter has \$.000 women sowing the chapter has \$.000 women sowing the society for girls, which already has been the society for girls, which already has a membership of mere about the Fatriotic Lagrae, a nation, the camps and cantonments. They are appeal of the Y. W. C. A. worker to a talk by a Y. W. C. A. worker to a talk by a Y. W. C. A. worker with the work of the received to a talk by a Y. W. C. A. worker of the received to give six days a weak to the direction of a surgical dressings in given at the day in the ready industries in notable response in the West. The appeal of the Y. W. C. A. worker to a talk by a Y. W. C. A. worker to a talk by a Y. W. C. A. worker work and interest people in the task in hand. The task

ALIVE TO WAR NEEDS AND WORKING FAST Every Branch of Relief Well Organized, Red Cross, Christian Associations structed at Plattaburg. Now other ducted on the cafeteria plan. To the Every Branch of Relief Well Organized, Red Cross, Christian Associations of this type have been left in a huge enclosed porch where

and Patriotic League Enlisting Thousands for All Kinds of Labor operated cutters by the sixty-five vol-unteers at headquarters. The qui

pieces, ready for sewing, are then de-livered to the 3,000 volunteer women sewers. They take the garments home and stitch them carefully and well. Each garment ready for sewing is entered and time checked as it leaves headquarters. The date for its return is noted on a turn up card. The work proceeds evenly and rapidly. Although the Oakland chapter Great interest is being taken in the does not include the adjoining towns

Western war work may be had in San Francisco, where are established the offices of the Pacific divisions and departments of the national war organizations.

The Pacific division of the American The Pacific division of the American Bed Cross and the work in this Western field of the Young Men's Christian Association and of the Young Women's Cakland chapter maintains a ground sewn into one piece would extend 200 miles, or approximately 352,000 yards. Recently the committee on hospital garments reported there had been propared 454 pajamas, 4,156 towels, 1,068 bath towels, 2,506 bed sheets, 2,400 handkerchiefs, 2,4

This was the work of a single chap-

whether their output is large or small, whether they are in cities or in redons distant from railroads. Red
Cross workers are following Henry P.
Davison's suggestion that the Red
end of the meeting they all stood up sweet, clean and pure. 'ross should provide 10 per cent, of and took the pledge of the Patriotic ilrection and guidance and the work- League. ers 90 per cent. of initiative, thus com-pleting 100 per cent. of directed work. Patriotic League are illustrated by the sands are near great cantonments. all of the chapters in the Pacific division are in constant touch with the paper box factory. an Francisco headquarters.

The war work done on the Pacific in a box factory," said the girl. "We'd coast by the Toung Women's Christian like to be."

Association is mobilizing the vast re"Why, making paper boxes is Association is mobilizing the vast resources of the country's energetic patriotic," replied the secretary, and shources, wives, sisters and sweethearts of soldiers to see their men "Then making paper boxes is a folk in comfortable headquarters at of the economics of patriotism." ing since the war. The Young Womon's Christian Association is helping he girl workers in these cities to find

The methods of the Cakiand chapter | highly trained and the inexperienced | so re followed by all the chapters, were alike there. They gathered to the gether with a common object, sang promises that nothing in her conduct songs and listened earnestly to a shall be a cause of reproach to herself

"Then making paper boxes is a part the comps and cantonments. Some of piled one of her listeners, a girl of for-the towns and cities near the cantonwas embodied in the propaganda. There are three features in the

oledge of the Patriotic League, and the girls taking it wear a button. The lodgings and is providing places for first part of the pledge relates to the

Liberty Bonds with success. In the third part of the pledge the girl promises that nothing in her conduct

When one considers that thousands of sirls are working in munitions and remark of a girl who worked in a where large numbers of soldiers are stationed, it will be seen how important this part of the please is.

To many girls the thought that they could really do something to help win the war has come as a revelation. The ate. People are beginning to appreciate the potential value of the girl under 20.

There is no age when a girl is more susceptible to the appeal of high idealism. When given an outlet for her romance and patriotism there is no limit to her capacity for self-sacrifice In whatever work a girl is engaged

ments is new.

The commander has a citizen army, band even if she must take the baby He wishes the home associations to be intensive training, are short and their make it a success. mothers, wives or sisters who come to

Col. Wolf said he regarded this build- little town of Bremerton. ing as one of the most valuable ad- There existed no means of interest-

To the right is a lunch room con- notable

erected throughout the country, some men may smoke. Overhead in the of the most notable being upon the balcony are writing rooms. To the Pacific slope. The demand arose be- rear is a rest room for women and a cause the situation in these canton- nursery fitted with cribs, for many a young wife wishes to see her hus-

Major-Gen, Greene says the hostess kept up as much as possible. On the house is one of the most easential other hand he cannot have the camp features of the cantonment. Guards swarming with women. The intervals have been instructed to direct visitors of leave which the men have, in their to it and officers have promised to

Aside from the hestess houses the see them may have to wait several Young Women's Christian Associahours until their release from duty. tion is carrying forward on a greater In this situation Col. Wolf of Platts- scale than ever before the work it has burg turned to the Young Women's been doing successfully for fifty years Christian Association. He asked if —its industrial work in helping girls some plan could not be devised so that And this is in addition to its work in women who came could be comfortably taken care of. He promised a site and to its increased work in the Orient and to the enlarged demands now women who came could be comfortably many parts of the world and especially The Y. M. C. A. accepted the task being met in France and Russia.

and in three weeks the bungalow was The industrial work to help girls finished. It was a homey building presented new phases. For example, with a large lobby attractively fur- at the Bremerton (Wash.) Navy Yard nished and with comfort and rest there are the yeomanettes, girls who rooms for women. Moreover, there are enlisted for four years for office was a lunch room, where soldiers work. Then there are many civil sercould invite their wives or mothers vice girls in the same kind of work. to luncheon or a home cooked dinner. An entirely new situation arose in the

juncts of a citizen army.

At American Lake, Washington, wholesome recreation for their leisure. ing girls in patriotic work or providing Major-Gen. Greene in command and Many of them found it impossible to Major Stone, his chief of construction, get decent lodgings. Mrs. Coontz, wife cooperated in every way to provide the accommodations needed by so large a the Y. W. C. A. should come in and camp. When the camp is completely undertake recreation and club work filled it will have more than fifty thou- for all of these girls. This was done sand troops. Plans were rushed and In the last three years the forces of the building is now completed. It is the Young Women Christian Associa-85x145 feet, and has as a main recep- tion in this field have quadrupled; the tion room a great lobby with a cobble- finances have increased 450 per cent. The success of the work has been